

ABSTRACTS OF PRESENTATIONS MADE AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE  
*RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION, INC.*, HELD AT  
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, ON 3-7 NOVEMBER 1993

**SPECIAL SYMPOSIUM: ADAPTATIONS OF RAPTORS TO  
HUMAN-ALTERED ENVIRONMENTS**

**ORGANIZERS:** DAVID M. BIRD. *Avian Science and Conservation Centre, McGill University, 21111 Lakeshore Road, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Quebec, Canada H9X 1C0*, AND DANIEL VARLAND. *ITT Rayonier, Inc., Northwest Forest Resources, P.O. Box 200, Hoquiam, WA 98550 U.S.A.*

**DIURNAL RAPTORS IN THE FRAGMENTED RAIN FOREST  
OF THE SIERRA IMATACA, VENEZUELA**

ALVAREZ, E. *The Peregrine Fund, Boise, ID 83709 U.S.A.*  
D.H. ELLIS. *Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Laurel, MD 20708 U.S.A.*  
D.G. SMITH. *Biology Department, Southern Connecticut State University, New Haven, CT 06515 U.S.A.*  
C.T. LARUE. *Peabody Coal Company, Kayenta, AZ 86033 U.S.A.*

The rain forest of the Sierra Imataca in eastern Venezuela has been subjected to extensive deforestation for pastures and agricultural settlements. In the last decade the opening of access roads combined with intensified logging and mining activities have fragmented a significant portion of the remaining forest. We noted local distribution and habitat use for 40 species of diurnal raptors observed in ten affected areas, including raptors considered as forest interior species and some open country species utilizing the man-made openings inside the forest for roosting and foraging.

**RAPTOR NESTS ON ELECTRIC UTILITY FACILITIES**

BLUE, R.J. *Carolina Power and Light Company, Harris Energy and Environmental Center, S.R. 1127, P.O. Box 327, New Hill, NC 26562-0327 U.S.A.*

Electric utility power line facilities have been shown to provide nesting, roosting, and perching sites for raptors. A two-part questionnaire was distributed to the electric utility industry through the Edison Electric Institute Biologists' Task Force to document the utilization of electric utility facilities for nesting by raptors. Part A of the survey was designed to determine the number and species of raptors nesting on power line structures in the United States. Because many electric utilities have participated in activities such as erecting nest platforms or hacking sites, Part B of the survey was designed to solicit information on these various raptor enhancement programs. Respondents were asked to list any agencies or groups they had worked cooperatively with on raptor enhancement projects. They were also asked to provide information on raptor nests on utility facilities other than power lines. To quantify the percent response from the industry a comparison was made

between the total generating capacity and circuit miles represented by the respondents and the industry total. In keeping with the theme of the symposium, adaptations to human-altered environments, the primary purpose of the survey was to describe the positive aspects of the relationship between raptors and electric utility facilities.

**USE OF RESERVOIRS AND OTHER ARTIFICIAL  
IMPOUNDMENTS BY BALD EAGLES IN THE  
SOUTHEASTERN UNITED STATES**

BRYAN, A.L., JR. *Savannah River Ecology Lab, Aiken, SC 29802 U.S.A.*  
T.M. MURPHY. *South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Department, Green Pond, SC 29446 U.S.A.*  
K.L. BILDSTEIN. *Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, Kempton, PA 19529 U.S.A.*  
I.L. BRISBIN, JR. *Savannah River Ecology Lab, Aiken, SC 29802 U.S.A.*  
J.J. MAYER. *Westinghouse Savannah River Company, Aiken, SC 29801 U.S.A.*

The southeastern United States, exclusive of Florida, lacks any large natural standing bodies of water. As a result, the distribution of bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) in this region historically has been along the coast, with nearly all past nesting activity occurring in this area. Over the past several decades, a number of inland impoundments have been constructed in this region, ranging in size from hydroelectric reservoirs of many km<sup>2</sup> to smaller impoundments for fish hatcheries and other aquacultural facilities. Bald eagles are becoming associated with these man-made wetlands, and nesting activity at these sites is increasing. Analysis of data from South Carolina suggests that the nesting productivity of eagles associated with man-made impoundments ( $\bar{x} = 1.23 \pm 0.88$  fledglings/nest) is greater ( $P < 0.05$ ) than that of eagles nesting in non-impounded areas ( $\bar{x} = 1.03 \pm 0.80$  fledglings/nest). Multi-year surveys of the avifauna found at a series of reactor cooling reservoirs on the U.S. Department of Energy's Savannah River Site near Aiken, South Carolina indicate the patterns by which bald eagles and other avifaunal components use such reservoirs and their response to management practices such as reservoir drawdown.

**PEREGRINE FALCONS IN URBAN NORTH AMERICA**

CADE, T. *The Peregrine Fund, 5666 West Flying Hawk Lane, Boise, ID 83709 U.S.A.*  
M. MARTELL AND P. REDIG. *The Raptor Center at the University of Minnesota, 1920 Fitch Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55108 U.S.A.*  
G. SEPTON. *Milwaukee County Public Museum, Milwaukee, WI 53233 U.S.A.*  
H. TORDOFF. *The Bell Museum, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55108 U.S.A.*